

## The Citizen

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### Progress of Lessness.

The success achieved by the department of agriculture in crossing American with Japanese persimmons should inspire us with additional admiration and respect for advanced science. We may now eat persimmons without being subject to the pucker with which the name of this delicious fruit has so long been associated. Those whose good fortune it has been to pass the early years of their lives in one of the great persimmon districts of the country, remarks the Chicago Inter Ocean, will realize at once what this achievement means. Early in the season, before the persimmon had begun to ripen, they will recall a great longing for a taste of it spread throughout the neighborhood.

This passion always manifested itself simultaneously among the young and old of both sexes, and for a week or two the pucker would be universal. Now this is to end. The puckerless persimmon, thanks to the little Jap, will soon make its appearance in all the persimmon districts, and strangers hereafter, ignorant of the cause, will not fall into the error of believing that all the males in the community are trying to whistle and that all the females are offering to kiss them. We have already on several occasions called attention to the wonderful change that has come over life in the country by reason of the introduction of the trolley, the telephone and the rural postal route. But these constitute only a part of the innovations which have been instituted since most of our middle-aged citizens were boys. What with stoneless peaches, weedless wheat fields, shuckless corn, mortgageless lands, worryless creditors, careless children, and, finally, puckerless persimmons, the movement back to the soil, already under full headway, will be greatly accelerated.

Plans for a large naval station on Lake Michigan have been prepared for the consideration of the secretary of the navy. They provide for the expenditure of two and a half million dollars for the erection of a large group of buildings for the accommodation of at least a thousand young men under training for service in the navy. The establishment of such a station on the great lakes is the natural outcome of the liking of the young men of the west for service in the navy. The modern warship is manned not by sailors so much as by men with a mechanical taste, for the ships are monstrous machine shops. The western youth with a taste for machinery and a desire to see the world is finding the naval service a pleasant way for gratifying both desire and taste.

Nicholas Longworth is said to be a much better housekeeper than his young wife, who has been heard to declare that she fairly hates housekeeping. The congressman is an expert with the chafing dish and at more than one charity affair has covered himself with glory as an amateur chef.

Andrew Carnegie wrote to a newspaper in London: "Wealth lessens rather than increases human happiness and millionaires who laugh are rare." Well, we should smile!

"Nobody seems to want our territory," said ex-Delegate B. S. Rodey, of New Mexico, "and there is no telling where we will have landed by the time the statehood fight is settled. Our status is as uncertain as that of an old negro slave I once heard of. Somebody asked him whom he belonged to. 'Ah don't know, suh,' he replied. 'Ole marse, he upstairs playin' pokah.'"

The announcement that candy is a sure specific for fatigue will doubtless stimulate the glucose industry.

A California lawyer will not argue a case before a jury that has whiskers. These masks enable jurors to conceal their feelings when lawyers take up their time with argument over precedents.

According to a household journal, one of the best of appetizers is orange marmalade. Another good one is a day's work on a woodpile.

A chestnut tree at the foot of Mount Etna is 213 feet in circumference and, 2,000 years old.

## THE HOME MARKET HELPS.

Good for the American Farmer When the Consumer Has Money to Spend.

It has not been very long ago since Grover Cleveland advocated changes in the tariff to help everybody. Some people then were not making as much money as they thought they should make, and they kicked at the tariff until they got a Democratic administration and the tariff was reformed. Then, says the Iowa City Republican, they had Mexican and Canadian cattle coming in free of duty and prices of cattle went down. Steel went down, so did barbed wire and nails and everything went down except interest on loans. This period of cheap cattle, poor markets and depression was followed by the enactment of the Dingley law, and prices have been pretty good ever since, so good that a movement had been inaugurated in the east to remove the duty from cattle, chickens, eggs and butter so they can be secured from Canada at lower prices than they now have to pay for products from the western states. In 1896 we were not troubled about our foreign markets. We wanted to rehabilitate the home markets so that the farmers could sell at home. McKinley said open the factories of America to the American workman and that was done. When the American worker is busy and has money to spend for necessities of life the farmer is going to have a pretty fair market. Of course he wants all the market he can get, but he will hardly cut off a good home appetite by admitting foreign made goods and taking chances in competition with the world in finding a foreign appetite with something to pay for food to satisfy it.

## WINS THE NATION'S BREAD

Present Tariff Vindicated by National Income and Industrial Protection.

There have been times within the nearly eight years since the Dingley tariff was enacted when partisan critics of protection chuckled over a prospective deficit in the national treasury, which they could charge on the one hand against the extravagance of congress and on the other hand against the failure of the Dingley tariff as a national income winner. Our national experience, however, says the Lewiston (Me.) Journal, has repeatedly vindicated the present tariff both from the point of national income and from the point of view of industrial protection. For a longer period than any preceding tariff has the present tariff been endorsed by results in the treasury department as well as by results in the shop and on the farm. Now it is announced that never in the history of the country have customs receipts been so high under any tariff as during the fiscal year beginning last June 30. And be it borne in mind that this generous reinforcement of the federal treasury occurs at a time when the business development of the country was never so rapid, when labor was never more generally employed at good wages and when all the conditions surrounding the economic well being of the American people were never more satisfactory. The shutting out of frenzied finance by the enforcement of antitrust laws takes the wind out of the partisan larynx which accuses the present tariff of responsibility for the outrages of monopoly.

### Hearst and Bryan.

There is every appearance of a serious purpose on the part of the so-called "conservative" Democrats of New York to play Bryan against Hearst, the design being to kill off the latter politically and to render hopeless any effort on the part of the Hearst contingent to carry the state or country. Such a campaign means also an irreconcilable rupture in the Democratic party, but this does not deter the "conservatives." Plans are on foot for extending the Democratic Club of New York, a "conservative" organization, so as to give it national influence. The young man formerly ridiculed by the Democratic brethren as a noisy but harmless "yellow kid" has developed into a terrible infant whose antics send the "conservatives" into convulsions.—Troy Times.

### THE POLITICAL DRIFT.

■ The temple of Janus at present is closed except when the Democratic minority in either branch of congress holds a caucus.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

■ Still the Democrats are not claiming that their present cloud has a silver lining. Even Mr. Bryan admits that that's all in the past.—Indianapolis News (Ind.).

■ A New York Democratic club says Mr. Bryan is now "sufficiently conservative" to be endorsed by the entire party. That sounds better than to admit that the party is flirting with notions that are too wild even for Bryan.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

■ Mr. Bryan's lack is certainly changing. By the greatest stretch of imagination his enemies cannot accuse him of causing the California disaster.—Washington Post.

■ The house committee on ways and means has voted against reporting any tariff bill to the house. The drift is in the hands of its friends.—Milwaukee News.

■ The average ad valorem rate of duty on all imports for the fiscal year 1905 was 23.77 per cent, which is less than any year since 1872, except during the years 1892 and 1893.—American Economist.

## Americans Not Risque—But More So

By MADAM YVETTE GILBERT.



AMERICANS accuse the French people of audacity in dealing with certain subjects in the drama, and in literature they say we are vulgar, but it is not the French dramatists and writers, it is not the French people—it is your American language that is at fault.

Foreign artists come to this country, and they are so fettered by commercial considerations that they will not speak out their minds. They pretend they do not notice any difference in the moral view-point, yet I, who am fond of America and the American people, do not hesitate to say you are inclined to see what you think risque in what the French people recognize as only natural and proper.

That is the trouble with American audiences. They are always looking for something shocking, and they generally succeed in finding it.

Americans regard the French people as extremely free in their acceptance of what you love to call the risque, but I must confess we never go to the same limits of toleration as do the Americans with all their readiness to discover something off color.

There is a great deal of latitude in the term "risque," and I am inclined to think it has geographical limitations. While you Americans regard the French people as the extreme, we are looking upon Americans as decidedly not risque—but more so.

The tendency to see something vulgar where vulgarity does not exist is only a condition of development. It is the same condition of development, intellectual and artistic, that causes an uncultured person to see evil in a nude statue. The subtleness of the risque in songs or drama accompanies only a higher intellectual state—that is, regarding the meaning of risque as entirely different from the coarser interpretation, which I fear exists often in nations that have not the highest spirituelle development.

Americans are intelligent, wide-awake, appreciative, they are progressive and responsive to what appeals to them; but I look forward to the time when they will develop in their spirituelle conceptions, when they will take a more subtle and finer view of things.

## What It Is To Be Good

By BERTHA HIRSCH BARUSCH.

To be good, it is not enough to abstain from what is ill; nor is doing good an equivalent for being good. In order to be good, the very core of life must be kept pure and sweet, notwithstanding appearances to the contrary; for genuine goodness consists first of all in a positive moral attitude toward life, namely, in the will to be good; in the earnest desire to attain to goodness, and the inmost wish to do good.

Thus the man who cheats and hoodwinks so adroitly as never to be held for an overt act committed against the law, is, despite his semblance of goodness, morally guilty.

The regular attendant upon the church, bowed in pious devotion, who has never suffered from the odium of heterodoxy or religious delinquency, is ostensibly a good man, a good churchman, however divorced his life from the principles of goodness outside the church. But unless the life of the church and the life of the world coalesce, both to the purification and uplifting of the entire moral and spiritual being, no evidence of public worship can take the place of goodness lodged in the very heart of man.

The pious fraud who prays with his lips while his thoughts dwell on mundane affairs; the intellectual falsifier who subscribes to long outworn doctrines; the individual whose social conscience permits him to do what is denounced by both church and state, may hide his crooked form under to cloak of piety and goodness, remaining nevertheless morally culpable.

As with the good man of the church, so with the good man of the state.

Hence, to be a "good citizen" is to have at heart the good of the city, state or nation, to the extent of rendering personal service wherever and whenever needed to conserve civic and political health, for it is thus, and thus only in offering practical testimony of good citizenship that one earns the inalienable right to the title of a "good citizen."

Goodness, then, consists first in loving the good; second, in having the will to be and to do good, in seeking to know the good, and knowing it to do that which is good. Some know the good and do evil; others love the good and follow evil, but if following evil they yet shall so love the good that they forsake evil and return to the good—there shall be rejoicing in Heaven and upon earth greater over one of these than over 10,000 who have never loved the good, and have never done evil.

## The Model Wife and Her Throne

By REV. A. R. LAMBERT.

club life, social functions, etc., until the mother and wife becomes almost a stranger to husband and children.

For the husband to give his time to other environments than the home life—to spend all his evenings at the club; to linger over his "cups" or waste in the "gambling hell" the hours he ought to give to his wife and children; to fail to impress his personality upon the home life—is reprehensible indeed; but for the wife to neglect the home means to undermine the very foundations of the republic and cut off the resources which make for the nation's well being and happiness.

The model wife is consecrated womanhood—building itself through the days and weeks and years into the lives of her loved ones. The real throne of the model wife is the home. I know there are exceptions. I am familiar with the Clara Bartons, the Joan of Arcs, the Frances Willards and others who have turned aside from the home, actual or prospective, and enriched the world by so doing. But, nevertheless, the throne of womankind, and of the model wife in particular, is the home.

## THE TASK OF REVISION.

Good Reasons for Letting the Dingley Schedules Stand Some Years Longer.

A change in any portion of the tariff schedules would mean an overhauling of them all. This would be a task of many months. Although work on the McKinley and the Wilson tariffs began in December, they were not enacted until far along in the next year, only a short time before the congressional elections. In each case, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, the party making the tariff revision was beaten for congress. A great deal of dynamite is usually wrapped up in tariff overhauling schemes. The Republicans escaped disaster in shaping the Dingley law. They escaped for two reasons. Tariff changes were necessary at that time because the Wilson act furnished neither sufficient revenue to the government nor protection to the domestic producer. The Dingley law provided both protection and revenue. This is one reason why the Republicans did not suffer from the dissatisfaction always caused in some interests by changes in the tariff schedules. Another reason was that the changes were made in an extra session which met soon after the inauguration. This allowed the tariff a year or more of operation before the first election took place. By that time it had a chance to show that it was accomplishing the objects of its framers, and was a benefit to the country.

When Mr. Payne says that no tariff revision will take place during this session he means during this congress. None can take place during the short session, which begins after the congressional election. Once in a long while tariff changes are made in the short session, but this is so rare an occurrence that it may safely be eliminated as a possibility in the present instance. The three months' session which begins in December, 1906, will have urgent work enough cut out for it to keep it busy until the general wind-up comes on March 4, without going out of its way to seek work that very few persons are asking for, and that a large majority of the people oppose. The Republican leaders, from the president and Speaker Cannon down, want this to be a business congress. Many important questions are before it. They want legislation on all of them. In order to get this legislation congress will be kept busy to the end of the term. Tariff revision is a large task under the most favorable conditions, even with the nearest election far in the distance. It would be a particularly embarrassing subject in the present exigency, with a congressional election certain to take place before the final touches could be put upon the new schedules if the work were started now. The Dingley act can safely be allowed to stand for two or three years longer.

A personal letter, not intended for publication, but which was used for partisan misrepresentation, has drawn from Speaker Cannon of the house of representatives a statement as to his position with regard to the matter of revising the tariff. The speaker meets the question with characteristic frankness, and his utterances will carry weight and significance in view of his prominent position. His attitude in this matter is similar to that of other men of high standing and great influence in the Republican party. There will be general tariff revision when the people clearly manifest a desire for it, but he does not believe it will come during the present session of congress, for no such popular demand as would compel action has materialized.

Speaker Cannon utters the words of truth and soberness and shows a correct understanding of the situation when he affirms that nothing effective can be accomplished except by a complete revision of schedules, which would be the result of such a compromise as would command a majority vote of the 386 members of the house of representatives and of the 80 senators. Even then the outcome might not be to the advantage of the country. Says the speaker: "The enactment of such a revision and the time necessary to adjust it to conditions would halt production, consumption, and commerce for at least 12 months, and when the compromise is enacted as a whole it will probably not be an improvement on existing law." He concludes by saying that if the people actually want a revision they can express their wishes at the coming congressional election and their command will be obeyed. Meanwhile they are apt to think well before they authorize the disruption of conditions which in their entirety were never more favorable to the laborer, the farmer, the capitalist, the producer and the consumer.

This is a fair presentation of the case, and it involves an appeal to the judgment of the people, who, as the speaker with sound American statesmanship recognizes, are the tribunal of last resort. There was a political convention in Kansas the other day. It disposed of all the questions brought before it with regard to public policies by unanimously adopting the following: "Resolved, That we let well enough alone." That embodies wisdom as applied to the tariff as well as a number of other matters.

■ Senator Tillman has been on all sides of nearly every public question, but generally for the purpose of finding its weak spot and jabbing something sharp into it.—Chicago Tribune.

■ Republicans can ask no better issue for 1908 than tariff, which Democratic papers of the conservative type are advising to be sent to the front. Fannym Hall is in the field with that programme. Newspapers up the state will have to hurry if they expect to divide with that intelligent tiger the campaign strategy honors.—Buffalo News.



## SALOON AND THE CHILDREN

Incident Which Shows That Former Is Willing to Take the Food and Clothing of the Latter.

In a recent address S. I. Roberts, superintendent of cotton works in Danville, Va., said: "The effect of the saloon upon children of the laborer, according to my observation (and it is not very limited), is indescribably sad. A few years ago, when there were saloons in Danville, I went to the mill one Monday morning quite early, and as the operatives came in to their respective departments, I noticed a little girl and a boy, who seemed only to have been at work a few days. The little girl looked thin and pale, and shortly after the machinery started up she came over to where I was and said: 'Mr. Roberts, I am so weak and feel so badly I cannot work to-day; brother and I have not had a mouthful of breakfast, and mother is at home hungry and sad.' I said: 'What does this mean? Didn't you draw your wages Saturday evening?' 'Yes, sir,' said she, 'but (looking down at the floor, and with tears in her eyes), father has gotten to drinking and he spent all of our money Saturday night and did not buy us anything to eat.' I went out and ordered breakfast for them both, then I called them and said: 'You go home and tell your mother and father both, to come down to the mill and see me.' They came, and I promptly said to the father that we would not allow his children to work for us longer, except on one condition. Says he: 'What is that?' I answered that the wages they made must be drawn by the mother and used by her to obtain food and clothes for the children, and that he must not touch the money or have anything to do with making the purchases. After some hesitation, and seeing that argument was useless, he agreed. A few days later I was driving along the street, and a barkeeper came out of a saloon and hailed me to stop. He came up to my buggy and said: 'Look here, Mr. Roberts, you are interfering with my business.' 'What, said I, 'interfering with your business? Your business is to take the food from the mouths of women and children and clothes off their backs. My business is to put them on.' He turned on his heel and walked away.

"In my present position I am brought in immediate contact with many whose children are in our employment. When saloons were permitted in our city, not unfrequently have I witnessed scenes, and heard tales of sorrow from children of drinking fathers that were sufficient to cause any good citizen to declare himself an eternal foe to the saloon. Hungry and destitute of fuel and clothing, have I had them come to me for help, assuring me that their drunken fathers have taken their weekly earnings from them and spent them in the saloons, while mother with themselves have been left without food or clothing to suffer the rigors of winter's cold, and be pinched with extreme hunger."

### Novel Test of Sobriety.

An ingenious test of sobriety is now being experimentally adopted in continental towns. On entering a public house, the would-be drinker finds that the only way to the bar lies along a platform about two feet high, ascended by three steps. This platform is about 12 inches wide and 50 yards long, following a zig-zag course, with here and there an obstacle that has to be stepped over. One who has already had a drop too much is thus practically certain to fall from this narrow and difficult pathway to the padded floor, especially prepared to receive them. Sober ones are served in the order in which they reach the bar; if they require another drink, they must traverse the platform a second time, and so on.

### Ruin in Absinthe.

At the temperance congress at Neuchâtel in 1903, the French expert, Dr. Legrain, gave an interesting account of the action of the absinthe poison. After three years' absinthe-drinking, a man becomes weak-minded and full of ever-increasing nervous anxiety. He grows moody, taciturn, suspicious, eccentric, untrustworthy and apt to quarrel without cause. If he continues to take the deadly liquor, his body becomes a mere automaton, and he obeys without hesitation the auto-suggestions of his mind, often killing, maiming and destroying with savage glee those nearest and dearest to him.

### No Wine at Alumni Dinners.

The University of Virginia has expressed through its president a desire that no wine should be served at the alumni dinners, giving as a reason that the use of wine is incompatible with culture and intelligence, and no scholar should take the risk or be exposed to the peril of injury from this source. This is progress and evolution of the highest class.

### More Dangerous Than Gunpowder.

Yes, sir—we would rather have a barrel of gunpowder in the cellar than a barrel of hard cider. We are thankful we don't have to have either.—Rural New Yorker.

### Rum and Evil Manners.

Shakespeare says that man's evil manners live in rum. Their virtues we write in water.